

47 Ronin fails to excite



16 Jan 2014

From the outset of this review, you need to know that this is a terrible movie. Save yourself some money and just wait for it on DVD. Even then do not buy it, just hire it from the video store. Look, we can't really have high expectations of a movie starring Keanu Reeves. He seems to be the guy directors call when they want to take really good stories like the Constantine comic books and turn them into movies people don't really know how to react to. I mean, Reeves was even weird as Neo in The Matrix; he is just a strange actor.

I digress though; let's just get back into why 47 Ronin is 118 minutes (Nu Metro's and Ster-Kinekor's ridiculous amount of trailers and ads aside) of your precious life given to a ridiculous venture.

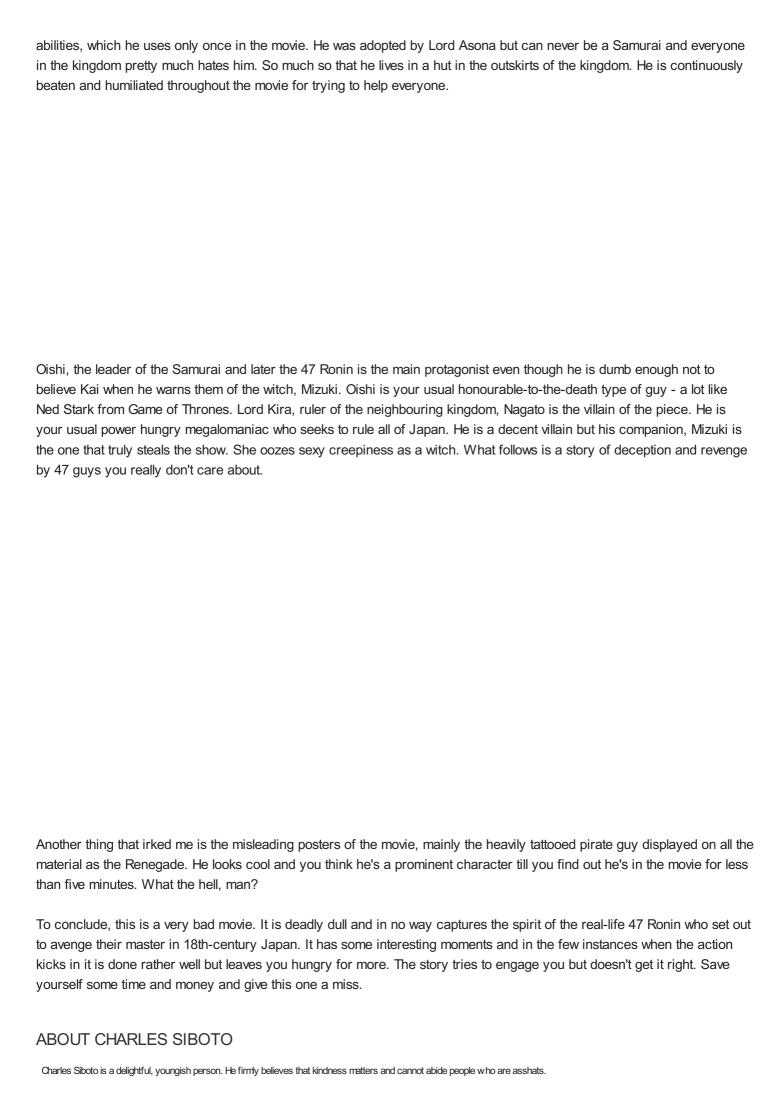


The problem with this movie, strangely enough, is that it tries too hard to sell its weak plot to you and it tries to make you care about its shallow characters. I have no problem with the lack of a solid plot or weak character development in a movie about a fictionalised feudal Japan inhabited by honourable Samurai, witches, demons and other shady characters. In fact, both those weaknesses usually make such a venture much better because you expect it to be cheesy and crammed to bursting with well-choreographed fight scenes accompanied by mind-bending CGI.

47 Ronin doesn't do this! There are only a handful of fight sequences and they are pretty much average and the CGI, though quite good, is not that great or rather it isn't used that effectively. Director, Carl Erik Rinsch tried to tell the story of the real 47 Ronin and make it very fantastical at the same time and failed on both counts. This movie, then, does not reward the viewer in any way other than it being very pretty. The scenery takes your breath away and the costumes the characters wear are amazing.



The story centres on Lord Asono's kingdom of Ako preparing to host a tournament in honour of a visit from the Shogun, the ruler of all of Japan. His beautiful daughter, Miko is in charge of all the ceremonial preparations and we learn that she is in love with Keanu Reeves' character, the half-breed, Kai. He is an outcast because he is half Japanese and half British and was raised by the demons of the forest, the Tengu and was trained by them to fight and also learned some of their magical



View my profile and articles...

For more, visit: https://www.bizcommunity.com